

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A voice coil motor of the movable coil type comprising:

a stator comprising a yoke divided into two portions forming a cylindrical space therein,  
and a permanent magnet mounted on an inside of the divided yoke;~~the stator producing a~~  
~~magnetic field;~~ and

a movable element of an armature coil accommodated in the cylindrical space of the  
stator, wherein

a highly rigid reinforcing movable element attaching member provided with a protrusion,  
the shape of which is the same as a coil section of the armature coil and extends to a gap of the  
divided yoke, at one end of the armature coil in the stroke direction, is formed into a coil shape  
having a cavity portion, and

a reinforcing beam made of non-magnetic and a highly rigid material is formed at a  
substantial center of the cavity portion, reinforcing ring, the shape of which is the same as the  
coil section, is fixed at the other end of the armature coil in the stroke direction, and

wherein the a reinforcing beam made of non-magnetic and highly rigid material, of which  
lateral width linearly extends from an inside of is fixed to the armature coil to the other inside  
and is operable to move with of the armature coil through the substantially center of the armature  
coil, and of which longitudinal width in the stroke direction extends from the movable element  
attaching member to the reinforcing ring, is fixed at an inside of the armature coil and an inside  
of the protrusion of the movable element attaching member.

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